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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/039,605	11/09/2001	Robert G. Marcotte	813.0024USU	2507

7590

04/13/2004

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JIMMY H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

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DATE MAILED: 04/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/039,605

Applicant(s)

MARCOTTE, ROBERT G.

Examiner

Jimmy H. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is made in response to a Request for Reconsideration filed on 01/30/04 (entered into the file wrapper as Paper No. 5). Claims 1-16 are currently pending in the application. An action follows below:

2. The indicated allowability of claim 2 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Asars. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asars (USPN: 5,227,696, cited in IDS filed 04/07/2003).

As per claim 1, the claimed invention reads on Asars as follows: Asars discloses a circuit (see fig. 1) for providing a pulse (a voltage signal of the load capacitance as shown in fig. 2) to drive a capacitive load (a load capacitance 12, fig. 1, col. 2, line 67), the circuit comprising a first inductive component (a winding 18, fig. 1) and a second inductive component (a winding 16, fig. 1). As noting in figs. 2 and 3A-3E, and the description at col. 3, lines 22-68, Asars teaches the first inductive component (18) influencing both a transition time of a rising edge of the pulse and a transition time of a falling edge of the pulse, and the second inductive component (16) influencing the transition time of the rising edge of the pulse, so that the rising edge and the falling edge are asymmetrical. The elements in the claim are read in the reference.

Regarding to claim 2, as noting in fig. 1 and the description at col. 3, lines 22-68, Asars further teaches the claimed first and second currents, a first switching device (a switch 20) and a second switching device (a switch 14).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding to claims 7 and 8, see the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in the last Office Action dated 10/31/2003. Regarding to claims 3-6, the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter is below.

6. Claims 9-16 are allowed. Regarding to claims 9-15, see the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in the last Office Action dated 10/31/2003. Regarding to claim 16, the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter is below.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the claimed invention is directed to a circuit for providing a pulse to drive a capacitive load.

Dependent claim 3 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, “a second current that flows through said first inductive component and said second inductive component in **parallel** to produce the other of said rising edge and said falling edge”, see claim 3, lines 4-6. Dependent claim 4 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, “said capacitive load is a panel capacitance in a plasma display panel”. Dependent claims 5 and 6 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, “a controller responsive to a signal derived from said first inductive component, ... zero”, see claims 5 and 6, last 5 lines. Independent claim 16 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, “a switch control ... to said first inductor”, lines 23-31. The closest art, Asars, as discussed in the rejection above,

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discloses a circuit for providing a pulse to drive a capacitive load in a thin film electroluminescent device, either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious, in the manner as recited in claims 3-6 and 16.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments, see the Request for Reconsideration, filed 1/30/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 3, 4 under 35 USC 102(b), pages 2 and 3, and of claims 5, 6 and 16, pages 3 and 4, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Asars. See the rejection above.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy H. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-5422. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached at (703) 305-4938.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:


(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-03770377.

JHN
April 7, 2004



Jimmy H. Nguyen
Examiner
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